Forest Service Colville National Forest Headquarters Office 765 South Main Colville, WA 99114 509-684-7000

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File Code: 2640

Date: July 29, 2013

Dear Participant:

I would like to welcome you to the Colville National Forest for the fall 2013 hunting season. The Colville National Forest has excellent hunting, particularly for white-tailed deer, turkey, black bear, and moose. We are proud to be one of the few National Forests in Washington to offer a disabled hunter access program.

The Disabled Hunter Access (DHA) program was established to provide high quality hunting opportunities on the Colville National Forest to hunters with disabilities. The overall project is a cooperative effort between many partners including the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDDFW), the Northeast Washington Forestry Coalition, and the National Forest Foundation. Many local businesses and organizations have also contributed to the program.

All hunters participating in the DHA program must sign-in and register in person at one of the Colville National Forest offices prior to hunting. Registration and sign-in begins on August 1, 2013. During registration and sign-in, participating hunters must have and present a Washington State-issued Disabled Hunter Permit. Hunters will also provide information about the rest of their hunting party and will receive a road access permit, maps, and other pertinent information. This contact information will be used to help us monitor how the DHA program is being used. You will also receive a post hunt survey form. We ask that you complete this survey when you are done hunting for the year and return it to us. The information you provide will be used to help monitor the overall program and identify areas needing improvement for future years. Thank you for whatever information you can provide us to make this program better for you and other disabled hunters.

The Colville National Forest currently has six routes open to all disabled hunters: Betty Creek and Boundary Mountain in Ferry County, Brewer Mountain and Mitchell in Stevens County, Middle Fork Calispell Creek and our newest route, Renshaw, both in Pend Oreille County. Each of these routes will be open to all hunters with disabilities, and their parties, from September 1, 2013 through November 30, 2013 unless conditions require closure. Access to Boundary Mountain has changed due to a washout. Mitchell has dropped one road segment due to a washout.

Additional informational packets are available at all Colville National Forest offices. Thanks to the Inland Northwest Wildlife Council, we have two wheelchair – accessible platforms in the Betty Creek route. More platforms are planned. For further information, you may contact any





of the offices listed on the attachment. This information will also be available online at our website: www.fs.fed.us/r6/colville. If you need more information on the WDFW disabled hunter access program, including how to get a WDFW Disabled Hunter permit, please see their hunting regulation pamphlet or visit the WDFW website at:

http://wdfw.wa.gov/outreach/access/acessibility/roadaccess.htm.

Thank you for choosing the Colville National Forest for your hunting location. We hope you enjoy your visit and have a memorable hunting experience. If you have any comments or concerns, please contact Sandy Mosconi, our DHA Program Coordinator, at 509-684-7058.

Sincerely,

/s/ Laura Jo West LAURA JO WEST Forest Supervisor